

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 2-4, 6, 9-10, 19-23, and 25 were previously pending in the application. Claims 4, 6, 19, 22, and 25 are amended; and new claims 26-33 are added herein. Assuming the entry of this amendment, claims 2-4, 6, 9-10, 19-23, and 25-33 are now pending in the application. The Applicant hereby requests further examination and reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and these remarks.

New Claims 26-33

Support for new claims 26-33 is found as follows:

<u>New Claim</u>	<u>Support</u>
26	Claim 6
27	Figs. 5A-E and page 9, lines 8-28
28	Claim 6
29	Claim 6
30	Figs. 5A-E and page 9, lines 8-28
31	Figs. 5D-E and page 9, lines 26-28
32	Figs. 5A-C and page 9, lines 13-20
33	Figs. 5D-E and page 9, lines 26-28

Amendment of Claim 4

Claim 4 has been amended to correct a typographical error. The Applicant submits that this amendment was not made to overcome any prior art.

Claim Rejections and Allowable Subject Matter

In paragraph 4 of the office action, the Examiner rejected claims 2-4, 9-10, 19-23, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baba in view of Stokes. In paragraph 6, the Examiner objected to claim 6 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that those claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. For the following reasons, the Applicant submits that all of the now-pending claims are allowable over the cited references.

Claims 19, 22, and 25

Claim 19 has been amended to include the features of previously pending claim 6. As such, currently amended claim 19 is equivalent to previously pending claim 6 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner stated that previously pending claim 6 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that currently amended claim 19 is allowable.

Claims 22 and 25 have also been amended to include the features of previously pending claim 6. For at least some of the same reasons that claim 6 was allowable, the Applicant submits that currently amended claims 22 and 25 are also allowable.

Since claims 2-4, 6, 9-10, 20-21, and 26-27 depend directly or indirectly from claim 19, and since claims 23 and 28-33 depend directly or indirectly from claim 22, it is further submitted that those claims are also allowable.

Conclusion

For the reasons set forth above, the Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections of claims 2-4, 9-10, 19-23, and 25 under Section 103(a) have been overcome. Furthermore, new claims 26-33 patentably define over the cited references.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicant believes that the now-pending claims are in condition for allowance. Therefore, the Applicant believes that the entire application is now in condition for allowance, and early and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Fees

During the pendency of this application, the Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment of any filing fees for presentation of extra claims under 37 CFR 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17 or credit any overpayment to Mendelsohn & Associates, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-0782.

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to treat any concurrent or future reply, requiring a petition for extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 for its timely submission, as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time if not submitted with the reply.

Respectfully submitted,

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